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Summer 2019

## **Tower Magazine, Summer 2019**

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✦ OUR SYMBOLIC SEAL  
Representing Distinctiveness

✦ AN ANGEL, A PRINCE  
Frank Stoppini and the Rome Program

✦ PHILOSOPHY OF FRIENDSHIP  
Both Noble and Useful

# TOWER

UNIVERSITY  
OF DALLAS

*Exploring  
the  
Heart  
of  
UD*

How our seal and our  
friendships define us

SUMMER 2019





## Moving Forward in Friendship

Some might say that here at UD we instill a deep inclination toward friendship and community in a world that has largely forgotten why these things matter — or perhaps that they matter at all. All too frequently, we exist in isolated bubbles of social media, Netflix, Amazon Prime, curating Instagram posts that make it seem as if we lead perfect iced-cake lives in which not a couch cushion, a fork, a doll or a paperclip is out of place — certainly junk mail never accumulates, dust never gathers on our books or specially selected knickknacks (one only needs a few); we never languish in loneliness longing for someone with whom we can share the less picturesque details of daily life.

We must seek out community more actively than we once did, and sometimes that's just too hard after everything else that must happen in a day. But with UD friends, it tends to be easier to pick up where you left off, sitting together over a pot of oolong, cappuccini, a bottle of chianti, sometimes years in between visits. This is probably a result of all the profound experiences you shared. You lived together, studied together, suffered together, danced together, played sports together, worked on plays together, traveled together.

It is also your common determination to find truth and justice, to talk things through until you arrive at something resembling these virtues. Like a family, community begins in shared experiences, shared beginnings, a common compost heap of the imagination, but where families so often fail, you know how to use the art of language to talk to each other; you learned that here. Even when you don't agree, you can often approach each other's arguments civilly, identifying commonalities and moving forward from there. This is how we move forward.

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The name *Stoppini* is integrally interwoven with the history and mythology of the Rome Program; courtesy of **Lyle** and **Sybil Novinski**, here is some of that story.

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Of all versions of UD's seal she has seen (or made) since her freshman year in 1983, alumna artist **Julie Richey** says this one speaks to her most strongly.



## NEWSFEED

## GLOBAL CORRESPONDENT.

With only a 10-minute walk to St. Peter's Square, **Ella Sullivan**, BA '20, spent her spring semester abroad, working with the Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) as the network's Vatican intern correspondent in charge of social media outreach. "The universality of it is so attractive," said Sullivan, a self-proclaimed news junkie, who is helping connect Catholics around the globe.



**FUTURE LEGENDS.** In November, **Luis Almanza**, MS '18, **Susan Horak**, MBA MS '23, and **Frederick Infante**, MBA '18, received competitive scholarships for their entrepreneurial spirit and outstanding leadership during the 36th annual Texas Business Hall of Fame Ceremony. "Our UD business awardees will no doubt represent the future legends of Texas business," said Gupta College of Business Dean **Brett J. L. Landry**, Ph.D.



**TEEING OFF.** After falling 16 strokes behind on day one of three, the UD men's golf team captured the 2019 Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (SCAC) Golf Championship, a first in team history. The underdog win also marked the university's first SCAC title for any athletics team in school history.



## OLYMPIC HOPEFUL

## Art Major Seeks Archery Qualification

Initially an intended science major, **Abigail Wade**, BA '19, ended up studying art, specifically painting. What hasn't changed since freshman year? She still aims to represent the U.S. in the 2020 Olympics.

Post-graduation, back home in New Hampshire, she's working on distance shooting (hard when practicing in the Jerome basement); she must shoot from 70 meters for the Olympics. Maintaining both training and academics wasn't easy, but her professors and friends were supportive. In Lit Trad I, Assistant Professor of English **Kathryn Davis**, MA '08 PhD '13, had Wade string her bow in class, as Odysseus must string his.

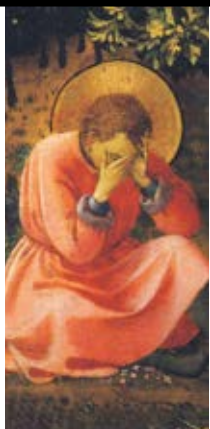
When asked what she loves about UD, this is Wade's first answer: the people. "The professors," she said. "And the friends I've made — I know we'll stay friends."



Read more about our aspiring Olympian at [udallas.edu/olympic-hopeful](http://udallas.edu/olympic-hopeful).

## SOUTH IRVING 'CONFESSIONS'

Students not only read **St. Augustine's Confessions** in Rome — they also travel 4.4 miles from the Irving campus to read it with South Irving residents. During this past academic year, two doctoral philosophy students, **Kimberly Heil** and **Pavel Jimenez-Vazquez**, led adult reading groups at St. Luke's parish in both English and Spanish. Enlighten yourself at [udallas.edu/south-irving-confessions](http://udallas.edu/south-irving-confessions).





"UD is already a center for significant work on Catholic social thought," said Sanford, who credits local businessman Rob Hays with playing an important role in making UD's new St. John Paul II Teaching Fellow a reality.

## TRUTH OF MAN

### UD Names First St. JP II Teaching Fellow

"Blindness to the truth about the human person has led to a crisis of family, community and opportunity," explained **Ryan T. Anderson**, Ph.D., at his inaugural lecture as UD's first St. John Paul II Teaching Fellow in Social Thought. "The attempt to elevate man by ignoring God has led to man's degradation. And we see the results all around us."

A prominent Catholic speaker and author on marriage, sexuality, religious freedom and natural law, Anderson will teach courses in UD's Politics Department over the next two years; as part of his fellowship, he will also present a series of lectures and an annual conference in collaboration with the American Public Philosophy Institute (APPI).

With the formation of the St. John Paul II Teaching Fellowship, UD aims to establish an institute for Catholic social teaching, with degree programs that include the philosophical foundations and applications of social teaching.

"Inviting Dr. Ryan Anderson will strengthen the university's commitment to Catholic social teaching, provide new insights for our students, and help us to fulfill our mission to pursue the truth and cultivate justice," said Provost **Jonathan J. Sanford**, Ph.D.

"In a world increasingly hostile to people of faith, people of faith will need to take reason all the more seriously, to be able to speak in terms and tones that our neighbors can understand," said Anderson. "Just as previous generations of the church rose to meet the challenges of their ages — challenges to truths about God and truths about the church — so, too, does our generation need to rise to the occasion to defend truth about man."



Read more at  
[udallas.edu/jp2-fellowship](http://udallas.edu/jp2-fellowship).



A current senior research fellow at The Heritage Foundation, Anderson delivered his first UD lecture, "Catholic Thought and the Challenges of Our Time," in March 2019.





The opening performance rekindled the popular Crowley concerts with a new setting inside the Museum of Biblical Art.

## MUSIC IN THE MUSEUM

### Crowley Trio: An Evening of Beauty

#### UD's Music Department Hosts Inaugural Chamber Concert

In an intimate gathering at the Museum of Biblical Art in February, the UD community celebrated the university's inaugural Crowley Chamber Trio Concert, "Music in the Museum," the first of three concerts planned for spring 2019.

Inside this Dallas treasure trove, large bronze sculptures take on life-size shape, and drawings, fine prints and large-canvas oil paintings decorate the museum walls. On the western end of the gallery was the in-residence chamber group: Director of Music **Kristin Van Cleve** (violin); Adjunct Professor **Jim Higgins** (cello); and Adjunct Professor **Andrey Ponochevny** (piano).

"We are here because beauty deserves to be vested in beauty," said Provost **Jonathan J. Sanford**, Ph.D. "This is a beautiful museum in a beautiful part of Dallas, and we have a beautiful program with music by **Franz Lehar**, **Ludwig van Beethoven** and **Felix Mendelssohn**."

"We are here because of **Marilyn Walker** — her generosity and dauntless spirit awaken this effort," said Sanford of UD's former director of music. "We are here to experience beauty. To have our spirits elevated, our minds formed and our hearts filled."

The trio was named and presented in gratitude to the late **David Crowley** and The David M. Crowley Foundation; their financial support was instrumental in reestablishing music as an important presence at the University of Dallas.



Discover more at  
[udallas.edu/crowley-chamber-trio](http://udallas.edu/crowley-chamber-trio).

## NEWSFEED

**TEACHING EXCELLENCE.** Just as the Braniff Mall ingrains the foundation of UD into our imaginations, the faculty instill the foundations of Western civilization, from the Greeks and Romans to our own U.S. heritage. Associate Professor of Theology **Mark Goodwin**, Ph.D., “frequently called upon to serve the greater interests of the university,” is the 2019 King Fellow. And a “model of a gentleman scholar and professor,” Associate Professor and Graduate Director of Philosophy **Chad Engelland**, Ph.D., is this year’s Haggar Fellow.

**COMMENDING LEADERSHIP.** UD inducted its fifth class into the 2019 Gupta Hall of Fame, including **Irvin Ashford Jr.**, MBA ’00, **Joe Giger**, MBA ’80, and **Jane Mody**, MBA ’75. The annual ceremony, initiated in 2015, recognizes the achievements of the college’s most prestigious business leaders.



**FAITHFUL GATHERING.** North Texas faithful will gather Oct. 10-12 for the 13th annual University of Dallas Ministry Conference. “The conference is a wonderful opportunity for ongoing formation ... as we assist those we serve to more deeply understand their Catholic faith and grow in spirituality,” said Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas and University Chancellor **Most Rev. Edward J. Burns**.



**CLASSICAL HOMECOMING.** UD will welcome Professor of Humanities and Philosophy **Jeffrey Lehman**, MA ’99 PhD ’02, to Braniff’s Classical Education faculty this fall. “My deep love of the classical liberal arts and ongoing quest to discern their current relevance to classical education was first kindled at UD,” said Lehman.

## HEARD ON CAMPUS

The many friendships we hold with one another represent a common thirst for communion: the seeking of truth and justice to derive conclusions through our shared experiences. From on-campus seminars and lectures, students gleaned valuable insight from top professionals and thinkers. Here’s a sample of what they heard:

**“We have a theology of the body ... but what we don’t have is a bridge between the theology of the body and how it forms our communities.”**

**Helen Alvaré**, professor of law at George Mason University’s Antonin Scalia Law School, at the fifth annual Scherer Lecture, “The Sexual Revolution Is Unsustainable: Marriage, Parenting and a New Communitarianism.”

**“Everybody knows a values-based culture performs better than one with no values, because we don’t stay if the values don’t align with our own beliefs and work.”**

**“Poetry, as it was in the ancient world, is still our most concise, expressive and memorable way of using words to describe what it means to be alive to ourselves, to others and even to God.”**

Internationally acclaimed, award-winning poet **Dana Gioia**, former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, at the fifth annual Galbraith Lecture, sponsored by the family of Alex T. Galbraith.

Texas Women’s Foundation President and CEO **Roslyn Dawson Thompson** on “Building a Firm Foundation” during this semester’s Leaders & Legends Speaker Series.

**“Buildings and pious practices stand as artifacts of ancient cultures and religious sentiments.”**

**Philip Jenkins**, distinguished professor of history at Baylor and one of America’s best scholars of religion, at the 20th annual Landregan Lecture, “The Ghosts of Churches Past.”

**“Give yourself the room to flex. And know that you can trust yourself. You have instincts; trust them.”**

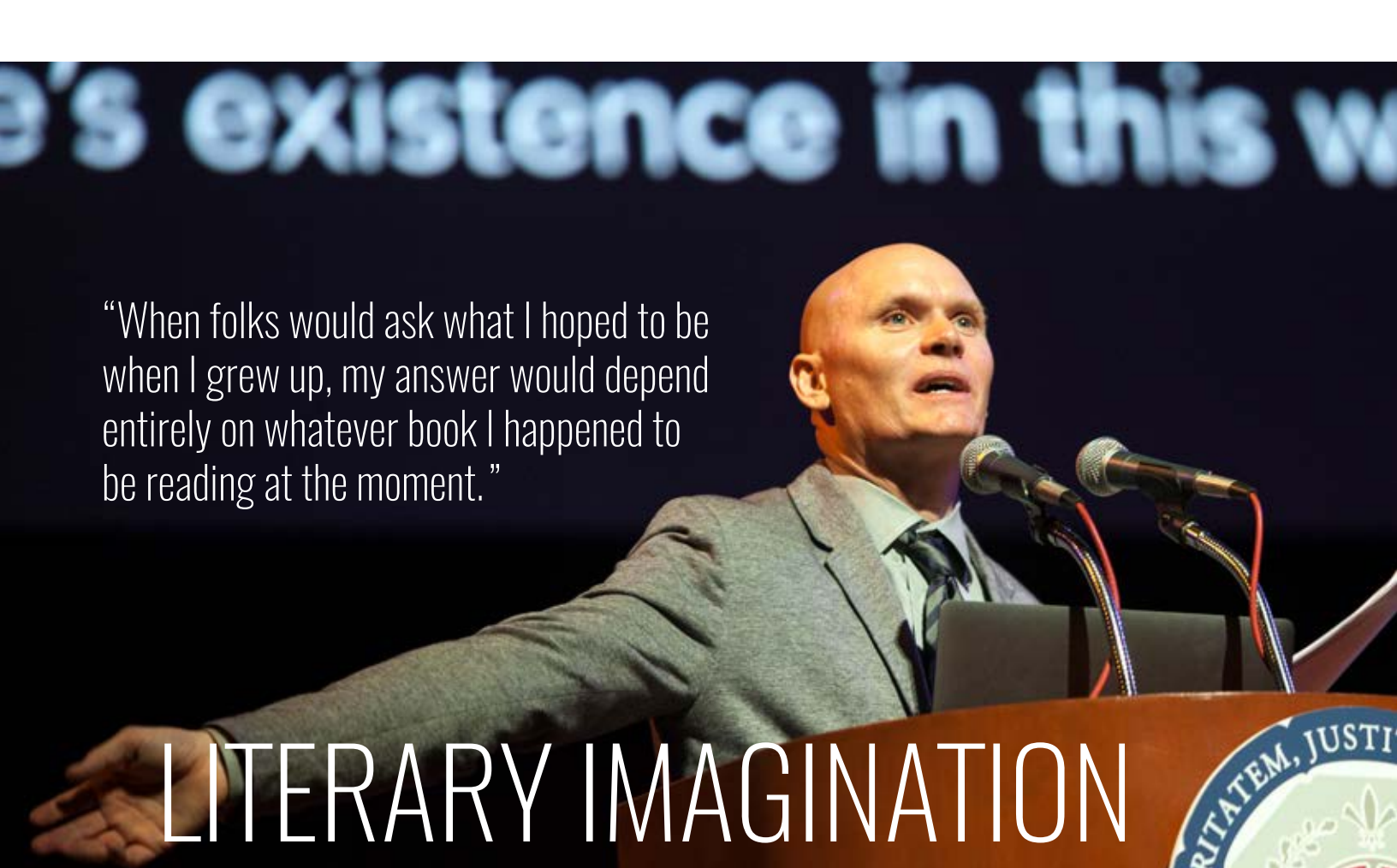
**Kathy Muldoon**, senior vice president at Carter Financial Management, during the Women in Business Leadership Panel “Work-Life Integration: Living Both Halves of Our Lives.”

## HOW TO BUILD A SHORTWAVE RADIO

If you’ve read our first **UD Reads** book, *All the Light We Cannot See*, you know you can build a radio from scavenged parts, which is what Assistant Professor and Department Chair of Physics **Jacob Moldenhauer**, Ph.D., did: scavenged parts from the Physics Department, and built a radio. Learn how at [udallas.edu/how-to-build-a-radio](http://udallas.edu/how-to-build-a-radio).







"When folks would ask what I hoped to be when I grew up, my answer would depend entirely on whatever book I happened to be reading at the moment."

# LITERARY IMAGINATION

## Escaping the Prison of the Familiar

Set center stage inside the Meyerson's crowned Eugene McDermott Concert Hall in Dallas, the UD community gathered to welcome Pulitzer-winning author **Anthony Doerr**, this year's guest lecturer at the university's 38th annual McDermott Lecture. In a captivating, larger-than-life performance, Doerr shared tantalizing stories of his youth, which, as we later found out, inspired much of his fiction.

The evening's lecture was the culmination of UD Reads — a new community-wide reading initiative to encourage the message of reading — with more than 4,000 students from the Diocese of Dallas and Irving ISD participating.

"After choosing the novel — *All the Light We Cannot See* — for our first UD Reads, it soon became evident that our vision needed to expand to the broader community," said Dean of University Libraries and Research **Cherie Hohertz**. "Anthony Doerr has become one of the most lauded writers of our time," she added.

From an aspiring NFL punt returner to a would-be marine biologist, Doerr indulged his childlike imagination from a young age; much like the middle and high school students in attendance, he grappled with those big life choices. "This lecture is for everybody out there who doesn't know what they want to be when they grow up," said Doerr.

"I was a complicated child," he explained. "When folks would ask what I hoped to be when I grew up, my answer would depend entirely on whatever book I happened to be reading at the moment."

For example, he read **Jack London's** *The Call of the Wild*, during which he envisioned becoming a mail carrier in the Yukon; **George Plimpton's** *Paper Lion*, inspiring his imagined future career as a professional NFL punt returner; and **Jules Verne's** *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*, after which he kept an aquarium of frogs, tadpoles and minnows in his bedroom for three years, determined to one day become a marine biologist. "By the time I was 10, I knew the name and number of every single player on the 1983 Cleveland Browns, but I also went to bed reading **Charles Darwin** and **Carl Sagan**," said Doerr. "This inability to narrow my interests was not something that I outgrew."

His curiosity only grew stronger in his early years of college, with his course palette including everything from Latin American studies, philosophy and sociology to nutrition, the civil rights movement and astronomy. "To me, the college course catalog was kind of like this all-you-can-eat buffet, and there wasn't a thing in there that I didn't want to put on my plate," he said.

An unabashed dilettante (or dabbler) during his college years, Doerr managed to discover a common truth in his broad interests: "We live in an interdependent world," he explained. "The truth is that, in 2019, the more we can remember how interconnected we all are, and the more we can train ourselves to empathize with the children in our neighborhoods, beyond our borders and in our futures, the better off we'll all be."

"Without stories we become trapped in the prison of the familiar," he added. "The imagination is a muscle; the more you use it, the stronger it will get. I hope it's not too bold to suggest that through novels, short stories and poems, we can expand our imaginations, combat unilateralism and stereotypes, deepen our experiences of life, and even, in incremental but important ways, nudge the world toward goodness."

# TRADITION OF CHARITY

## Cor Challenge Sets Record, Endows New Scholarship and Brings UD Community Together

In the fall of 2011, UD's National Alumni Board (NAB) launched the Cor Challenge to build on the tradition of alumni giving back to their alma mater. Now in its eighth year, the Cor Challenge is an essential component of the Cor Fund, which supports the heart of UD — the faculty, students and campus. Against national trends, alumni of UD have participated in giving year after year, showing their support and helping ensure a bright future for UD.

### CHALLENGE MADE

With the start of the Cor Challenge only a few days away, UD Trustee and NAB President **Andy Farley**, BA '98, proposed an unprecedented challenge: If the UD community raised \$175,000 from 700 individual donors, then the NAB would donate a \$100,000 endowed scholarship for UD students. Historically, the Cor Challenge had never raised this amount of money — previously, the largest

amount ever raised was just over \$150,000. To reach this goal, the Cor Challenge needed to bring in both the largest amount of money and the largest number of donors to date.

The decision to have a threshold for both dollars earned and number of donors was to show the importance of everyone getting involved. "We couldn't just rely on a few donors giving large gifts to meet the goal," said Advancement Officer **Mike Pitstick**, BA '15. "Instead, we needed everyone's support — even if someone was only able to give a few dollars, that gift was still very important. A higher alumni participation rate shows the outside world and potential donors that our alumni are invested in UD."

### CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

In the five days of the Cor Challenge, the UD community responded with overwhelming support, raising \$186,350 from more than 700 donors, smashing the goal and securing a \$100,000 endowed scholarship.

"The response from the UD community has been amazing," said Pitstick. "It's been fantastic to see our alumni and friends rally

together around a cause they support."

The newly founded endowed scholarship will be awarded on an annual basis to a junior or senior who exhibits outstanding academic and practical achievement toward his or her field of study.

"The NAB wanted to show the community that we are serious in our gratitude and love for our beloved alma mater," said Farley. "The best way to actualize our love is by paying it forward for future generations."

### TIME TO CELEBRATE

To close out the historic week, Professor of Physics **Richard Olenick**, Ph.D., dazzled more than 100 alumni and guests with a special astronomy presentation at Celestial Beerworks, which is owned by alumna **Molly (Rawicki) Reynolds**, BA '13, and her husband, **Matt**. The event at Celestial provided the perfect venue to cap off the week and celebrate with UD friends and family.

To everyone who participated in this year's Cor Challenge, thank you for giving to the heart of UD by supporting the liberal arts and helping us celebrate our tradition of charity. Your generosity enables our students and faculty to boldly press on toward the pursuit of creativity, ingenuity and new discovery.

#LoveYeUD





## LEAD WELL

# Your Job As a Leader

## 9 Ways to Create an Environment of Growth

By J. Lee Whittington, Ph.D.

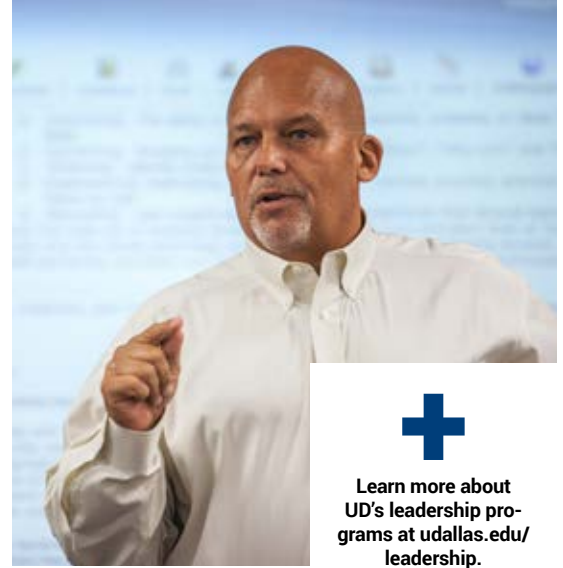
I played left tackle on my high school football team. If you know anything about that position, you know that we labor in obscurity and that no one knows who we are except our parents and our girlfriends. Unless, of course, we miss a key block and the quarterback gets sacked. (Yes, I have a story about that!)

There's a lot to learn about leading from being an offensive lineman. In that role, our job is to remove the obstacles so that others can run for touchdowns, or to protect the quarterback so he can throw the passes. Regardless of the play we're running, our job is to create a situation where others can perform and the team can win the game.

When I first became a manager, my dad told me that my job was to create an environment where people could perform. When I began teaching, my dad told me that my job was to create an environment where people could learn.

From playing on the offensive line to listening to my father's advice, the lesson was consistent, and the parallel advice was striking: As a leader and as a teacher, the fundamental task is to create an environment where people can perform, learn, grow, flourish and become all that God designed them to be.

I learned these lessons before I was aware of a label for this approach to leadership. Now I know that this is the



Learn more about UD's leadership programs at [udallas.edu/leadership](http://udallas.edu/leadership).

essence of servant leadership. This is reflected in **Robert Greenleaf's** "test" for servant leaders:

Do those I lead grow as people? As a result of my leadership, are they wiser, freer and more autonomous? How likely are they to become servant leaders themselves?

Based on these criteria, it is clear that the real measure of a leader's effectiveness is changed lives.

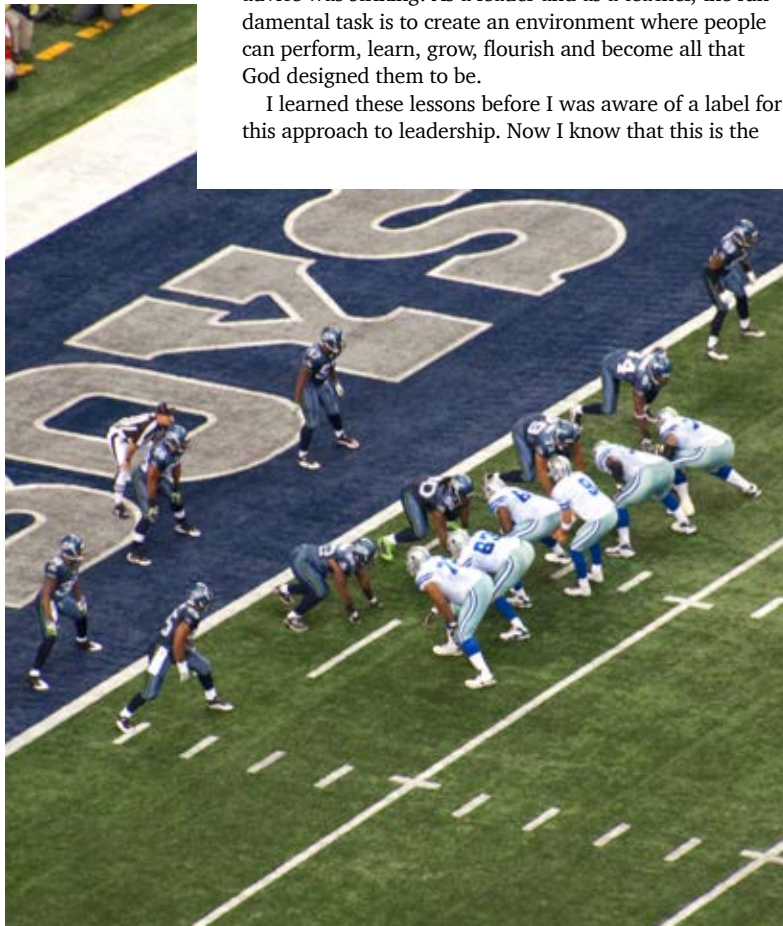
The challenge for any leader then becomes: How do we create an environment where those we are leading can learn, perform, flourish and thrive?

Whether you're a seasoned veteran or new to leading a team, here are nine ideas to help foster an environment where others can flourish:

1. **Become a student of those you're leading. Get to know the people you're leading and teaching so that you can customize your leadership style to their needs. One style does not fit all.**
2. **Identify their strengths, their giftedness and their passion.**
3. **Match their strengths, gifts and passions with a job that will tap into those characteristics.**
4. **Encourage and support them.**
5. **Look for opportunities to stretch them.**
6. **Use delegation as a developmental tool.**
7. **Create the right environment by providing resources and opportunities.**
8. **Create the right environment by removing organizational obstacles that get in the way of them performing at their best.**
9. **Buffer them from the distractions of organizational politics and nonessential tasks.**

As a leader, as a teacher, as a parent — as a lineman laboring in the obscurity of the trenches — your primary task is to create an environment where people can perform, learn and grow. As is the case with an offensive lineman, the work you're doing may not be seen immediately, but the results are always rewarding. The real measure of our work is the changed lives of those we lead.

**IMPACT.** Professor of Management J. Lee Whittington, Ph.D., focuses his teaching, research, and consulting in the areas of leadership, organizational behavior and spiritual leadership.







## Wise Words

### Alumnus Emmet T. Flood Speaks at 2019 Commencement

“**C**ultures survive, where they survive, in the users, observers and ultimately, the inhabitants of that culture,” said Assistant and Special Counsel to the President of the U.S. **Emmet T. Flood**, Ph.D., BA '78, who gave the 2019 commencement address.

“The continuation of what is best in the culture you inherited depends on you.”

Flood received his bachelor's magna cum laude from UD in 1978. He was valedictorian, Intramural Athlete of the Year, and winner of the Cardinal Spellman Award. Flood remembers Professor of English **Scott Dupree**, Ph.D., and the late Professor Emerita of Education **Cherie Clodfelter**, Ph.D., as his most influential teachers at UD.

Flood's experience includes service as Counsel to the President, Special Counsel to the President and Deputy Counsel to the President. He is the author of published articles in philosophy, comparative literature, law and political science. One of six siblings to attend UD, he is married to **Ariel Vannier Flood** and is the father of four children: **Kate**, **Erin**, **James** and **Jack**.



**1** Bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees were awarded on May 19 during the 2019 Spring Commencement Ceremony for the Constantin College of Liberal Arts, Braniff Graduate School of Liberal Arts, Ann & Joe O. Neuhoﬀ School of Ministry, and Satish & Yasmin Gupta College of Business.

**2** Flood has served on the Advisory Council of the Catholic Charities Legal Network of Washington, D.C., and as a member of the Little Flower Parish Finance Council in Bethesda, Maryland.

## ADVOCATING IN AUSTIN

### STUDENTS SUPPORT TUITION EQUALIZATION GRANT

In February, Director of Undergraduate Admissions and Enrollment **Michael Probus**, BA '12 MBA '15, took seven UD students to Austin to advocate for continuing and/or increasing Tuition Equalization Grant (TEG) money. **Chloe Athas**, BA '22, **Eduardo Egusquiza-Davila**, BA '21, **Celeste Gomez**, BA '19, **Rachel Lara**, BA '19, **Henry Obegolu**, BA '20, **Prince Obegolu**, BA '22, and **Max Wilson**, BA '19, are all recipients of this grant. They didn't all know each other prior to the trip, but now they would consider each other friends.



Though only comprising one night and one day, the visit was full of new, valuable experiences, including dinner with local alumni **Michael Barba**, BA '10, **Amber Chesser**, BA '07, **Vince Terracina**, BA '91 MBA '93, and **Tan Parker**, BA '93. After dinner, Parker, a UD trustee and state representative, took the students on a tour of the Capitol. The next day, the students saw the state legislature in action and shared their stories with representatives, helping connect the mission of the TEG with actual people. For many, the TEG made attending UD possible.



“The representatives were surprised when we came in,” said Athas. “They thanked us for giving our time and being voices in favor of the grant.”

Read more about the students' experience at [udallas.edu/capitol-visit](http://udallas.edu/capitol-visit).



This mosaic seal, a gift from the Class of 2018 and Brannon Marlowe, M.D., BS '98, and Christy (Stanley) Marlowe, BA '99, was crafted by Julie (Groschen) Richey, BA '87, and now hangs inside the front entrance of Cardinal Farrell Hall. It is 48 inches in diameter, with each tessera cut by hand and sanded.

*our*

# SYMBOLIC SEAL

By Chad Engelland, Ph.D.



**Hamlet** says he's reading "words, words, words," and our phones show us "images, images, images." Even though we swim in words and images, a combination of both can mysteriously calm our unquiet hearts.

When every May the new graduates don regalia to sit on the mall in the hot sun, they might find their gazes climbing the imposing campus landmark, the Braniff Memorial Tower, to rest upon the mounted circular emblem of their new alma mater: the seal of the University of Dallas. In words and images, the seal tells them where they began, on the banks of the Trinity River in Texas, the Lone Star State. It also tells them where they should like to go, the namesake of the Trinity River, which is their eternal destiny. But most helpfully of all, it tells them how to move from here to there: *"Veritatem, justitiam diligite,"*

But most  
helpfully of all,  
it tells them how  
to move from here  
to there: *"Veritatem,  
justitiam diligite,"*  
*"Love ye truth  
and justice."*

*diligite," "Love ye truth and justice."*

Just five years earlier, "University of Dallas" may have been for them only a name, one of the many names appearing on brochures that flooded their mailboxes. Because they could read, the printed letters were something more than oddly shaped blobs of ink. They presented a word-sound, and the word-sound in turn became besouled with meaning. Yet the word alone could not convey an understanding of what is distinctive about our university. When they visited campus as prospective students and took a campus tour, viewing the Braniff Mall, the Braniff Memorial Tower, the Church of the Incarnation, and some classrooms and residence halls, they learned a bit more about what sets UD apart. And yet even these campus images are but the outward

husk of UD. They are like the letters on the page that give us a word-sound. But they don't arrive at the heart of UD, what it means.

It is only by making a home here — and engaging in the conversation that is UD — that students come to understand just what makes UD so wonderfully different from everywhere else. As these graduates peer up at the seal, they see a representation of UD in all its distinctiveness: that institution between two Trinities, dedicated to progress by loving the goods of the intellect and of our lives together.

We live in an age awash in corporate logos and brand identification. We choose the clothes we wear in part to express who we are and what we are about. For example, we might grab a T-shirt emblazoned with the Nike swoosh that counsels one and all: "Just do it." Happiness, it would seem, is merely a matter of doing what we want. The seal tells us that happiness instead consists in doing what is best. Or better, the seal tells us what in our heart of hearts we all desire. **Socrates** asks, "Where are you going and where have you been?" The seal immortalizes our answer, helpfully adding how to achieve our goal: by loving truth and justice above everything else.

## Seal Symbolism

- 1 **"Love Ye Truth and Justice"** (Zechariah 8:19) emphasizes the university's purpose of advancing the search for truth and encouraging the pursuit of the good.
- 2 **Date** the university was founded.
- 3 **The triquetra** interwoven with the triangle is a double symbol of the Holy Trinity, to whom the university is dedicated. The circle is a symbol of eternity and the unity of the Godhead.
- 4 **The fleur-de-lis**, at once an ancient symbol of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of France, recalls the direct and indirect French origins of the two teaching orders that cooperated initially with the Diocese of Dallas/Fort Worth to establish UD.
- 5 **Crusader's shields**, emblematic of faith. The shield on the left contains a star, a traditional emblem of Mary and of Texas, the Lone Star State. The shield on the right presents the torch of liberty and learning.
- 6 **Live oak and olive tree branches**, taken from the Seal of Texas, make further reference to the state.
- 7 **The Trinity River**, on which the university is located, centered beneath the emblem of the Blessed Trinity.







# *The Philosophy of Friendship*

By Thomas S. Hibbs, Ph.D.





In recent months, as we prepared to join the University of Dallas community, my wife, **Stacey**, and I have had a number of occasions to visit campus. During a recent reception, we had the pleasure of meeting many students. One thing struck me about this event. Students almost never approached us individually; instead they came to us in groups, groups of friends spanning different majors and experiences: English majors with physics majors; art history majors with business majors; athletes with nonathletes; even Fromers with Spromers! Among the many ways of describing a UD education, one of the most compelling is to say that it aims to set the conditions for rich and enduring friendships.

This is not to dismiss the practical outcome of an undergraduate education. Indeed, in its acceptance rates for law and medical school as well as its placement rates of recent graduates, UD is doing remarkably well. But, as a recent Wall Street Journal article indicates, what matters for long-term success and happiness is not where students go to school or even particularly what their major is, but the level of engagement, inside and outside the classroom. If the conditions are right, such high-level engagement for groups of students will naturally generate friendships.

Friendship, **Aristotle** writes in the *Ethics*, is both noble and useful. “No one,” he says decisively, “would choose to live without friends.” In the ancient world and into the Catholic Middle Ages, friendship was central to reflections on the purpose of human life. It is telling that in Aristotle’s *Ethics*, two out of the 10 books focus on the topic of friendship, a topic that receives at best negligible attention in contemporary texts in ethics. Modern ethics is largely about rule following, about determining in specific cases of moral perplexity what it is we ought to do. Premodern ethics, by contrast, focus on virtues of character, on the shape of one’s whole life, and on what activities are intrinsically desirable.

Friendship is one of the chief examples of such intrinsically desirable activity. While friendships can be useful and conducive to many good things, it is a mark of true friendship that we enjoy spending time with our friends no matter what else we get out of it. Friendship continues to matter a great deal to us, even if we struggle to say why or fail ever to consider the fact of its mattering.

*“No one would choose a friendless existence on condition of having all other things in the world.”* —Aristotle

In this, we suffer from what the contemporary philosopher **Charles Taylor** calls “inarticulacy” — from an impoverished vocabulary, from an atrophying of the moral imagination and from habits of distraction that lead us not to notice our lack.

Aristotle





Y

et the impact is clear. Surveys show that while most people in the early 1960s claimed to have just above three good friends, that number has now slipped to beneath two. In fact, Britain recently declared loneliness a public health hazard. Even more alarming is the spike in civic

hatred. In the 1980s, less than 15% of citizens said that they hated members of the opposite political party; that number now stands at just under 50%. That's a shocking decline in civic friendship, the amity and trust across various types of divisions necessary for a society to flourish.

At a place like UD, deep and lasting friendships are forged in an array of contexts — in the science lab, on the athletic field, in late-night discussions of **Flannery O'Connor**, over gelato in Rome, in service projects in Irving. But at UD, students are also supplied with a vocabulary, a set of stories and arguments, that provide them with a language to articulate how and why friendship matters. As freshmen, UD students are reading Aristotle's *Ethics* while they are reading great stories of friendship in **Homer's** epics.

*“There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship.”*

— Thomas Aquinas

The UD Core has another virtue when it comes to friendship. As Columbia's **Andrew Delbanco**, one of the most perceptive contemporary writers on higher education, puts it, where there is such a shared curriculum, no student is entirely a stranger to any other. Put positively, what he means is that every student is potentially a friend to every other. Why? Because they have endless resources for what **C.S. Lewis** identifies as the starting point of friendship, the recognition of shared ways of seeing the world captured in the questions “What? You too?”

Moreover, UD students are exposed to high-level and disciplined disagreement in the books they read and in the way classroom discussion is conducted. They are also introduced to practices of civil discourse, which, if implemented in public life, would increase the prospects for civic friendship.

Now, in both deep personal friendships and in civic friendship, there is present what Aristotle lists as defining features of full friendship: namely, reciprocity and equality. Aristotle poses the question: Is it more of the nature of friendship to be loved or to love? He responds that the activity of loving rather than receiving love goes more to the heart of friendship. One has the sense — and not just here — that Aristotle is on the cusp of insights that exceed the boundaries of his own philosophy.

**Thomas Aquinas** would detect in these remarks a truth deeper than what Aristotle could fathom. When he discusses the nature of charity, he states that it is analogous to friendship. This is a bold claim, backed up by the scriptural passage in which **Jesus** proclaims, “I no longer call you servants but friends.” The assertion that friendship is possible between such vastly unequal beings as the Creator and a human creature is an astonishing one. In loving us, God enables us to love Him. Here, the active love of God seeks out human creatures and offers the gift of communion with the divine persons of the Trinity: friendship with God.

This wondrous love, the love that moves the sun and other stars as **Dante** puts it, is something students at UD are invited to ponder in texts and conversations, to experience personally through participation in the liturgy, prayer and the sacraments, and to live out in lives of generous service to others. The hope is that it comes to frame the way they understand all other human relationships, not least their friendships.

In a world in which education has been thoroughly commercialized, in which students are reduced to consumers and education touted only as a means to a later payoff, a UD education is a precious gift, for which we should all be deeply grateful.









# WHAT WE SHARE

## 50th UD Reunion Toast Class of 1968

In honor of the retirement of Professor of English **Eileen Gregory**, Ph.D., BA '68, we are sharing the toast that she made to her class at their 50th reunion this past October. We believe it suggests not only what the members of the Class of 1968 share, but the roots of what all UD alumni share.



CAPTIONS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED BY THE UNIVERSITY NEWS.

“ I’ve been asked to speak on behalf of our class — and this is a new thing for me. And a challenge. It’s a challenge because of the four dozen or so of you that are here tonight, there are that many radically distinct sets of memories and associations connected with the four years we were together at UD. So any one person’s memories give only one set, one vantage point. But let me try to suggest what we share.

Our memories are of the place itself — what was then definitely a work in its initial stages, with some remarkable landmarks, but lots of dirt paths, clayey goo and wide-open spaces. There are also memories of an odd assembly of teachers, some really gifted, brilliant teachers for a school so young, many of them the first generation of Cistercians. Such impressive learning among the teachers, and high intellectual expectations for us. But then, with the experience of this place and of this intense learning as the context, we each wove for ourselves, out of occasions and conversations and friends, and out of our own inchoate longing for happiness, a distinct creation of the heart. And it’s that distinct creation that remains with us after particular memories have all been covered over and lost.

These past few days, I’ve been musing on images of the place, of you, of us, and thinking about how strangely memory works. It is like an archaeological dig, in a way, trying to find any particular memory of those four years, with five decades of living laying down their sedimentary strata above them. Buried by Vietnam and grad school and marriage and children and grandchildren, and by decades of work and high points of achievement, by illness and loss and grieving, too — so that in all these layers of living, a particular memory from those four years is like a pottery shard, found in stratum 7a. And as I looked at images from the Chrysanthemum Ball and Spring

Formal and Charity Week and Groundhog, and art gallery exhibitions and drama productions — I wondered if you are like me in not having very specific memories of those more public events. And rather remembering ordinary, daily things — the walk uphill from the girls’ dorms, facing a bitter north wind; the scorpions in the showers and shoes; the smell of hamburgers from the cafeteria; and the declining food arc through the week, meatloaf on Monday, fish sticks and tater tots on Friday. The late-night serious conversations, writing essays until sunrise, and I loved the quiet and

the peace and concentration of studying, hidden away in a corner of the library (here is the nerd speaking). The campus was so stripped and bare then, kinda dusty, treeless and weedful and wind-swept, the hills with strange scrub oak — but that was part of the adventure, at least for me, the solitude and the austerity and the hermit-in-the-desert feel of it. Those ordinary memories are associated with feelings — they are a kind of feeling-scape to those years.

But of course that feeling-scape would not be there except for the people, the networks of affection, the friendships. I have sharp images connected with you back then. Because — like you — for the first time, coming into self-awareness, I was beginning to see others as distinct persons, having the freedom and the space simply to admire and take pleasure in others. Each of you too has your own sets of those memories connected with friends and acquaintances, whom you were coming to know, along with your own growing sense of the puzzle of yourself. And that’s something important too — that we were so young, and those four years take place at the time that you begin to have a groping sense

of who you are and who you might become — the excitement and sobriety of that — relishing solitude and the sense of an interior life, the imagination awake to the future.

One last thought to leave with you. I’ve been teaching at UD 45 of the 50 years since our graduation — yes, I’m the Class of ’68 Resident Nerd — and I’ve seen the whole span of its change since we were students here. If I were speaking with my UD professor’s cap on, I’d tell you how — despite ups and downs — UD has continued steadily to flourish over the years, while maintaining its spirit and its identity. And that’s true, too. This is a wonderful place, still, and it has been the greatest privilege to teach here. But speaking with my Class of ’68 cap on, I also think we had a good thing going in being young here when UD was young. There was a simplicity and an austerity that we took for granted, exterior expectations pared down to essentials. For all the intellectual stimulus we took in, we hated pretentiousness.

We carried knowledge lightly, as though it were natural to do so. We didn’t think about amenities much. This was before gluten-free, dairy-free kiosks in the cafeteria. Gosh, we were glad to get a fresh vegetable. But for all that, there was a kind of imaginative excitement, a kind of merriness, improvisation, a take-it-as-it-comes, an all-hands-on-deck, an anything-is-possible attitude. These are things difficult to maintain when an institution has to grow up, become more highly structured and self-conscious about itself, its identity and branding and marketability, its principles and its mission and its reputation. We maybe didn’t know that we were pioneers, young people on new ground — but we were — blithely making fire in our sod huts, not knowing or caring that they were sod huts — beginners, out here on the edge of nowhere — and that was our good fortune. That was a blessing.

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**“Something I’m going to do when I graduate is become a student again,” Gregory joked. She hopes to take some of her colleagues’ classes here at UD and maybe explore courses at other institutions. Gregory said that she probably won’t be able to let teaching go entirely.**

**“She’s a delight! She’s earned her right to go throw her pots and explore a million other things, but how much are we going to miss her.” — Greg Roper, Ph.D., BA ’84**



## Divine Intervention

"To meet Frank Stoppini was to meet a prince," said Professor Emeritus of Art Lyle Novinski. Like most Italians, the Rome Program's erstwhile prince and longtime tour guide, Francesco (Frank) Stoppini, was very concerned with manners and with style; once, Stoppini had arranged a restaurant dinner with the mayor of Olympia and his wife, and Novinski had forgotten his suit jacket. Stoppini chided Novinski for not being prepared for all occasions.

"I did not forget again," said Novinski.

Both Stoppini and his wife, Mary Ann, were always extremely cautious of bus drivers, recalled retired University Historian Sybil Novinski. The drivers needed to be not only courteous but also very careful, as they negotiated the curving mountain roads of Italy and Greece. Once the Stoppinis found a good driver, they would use him for years.

"Frank was our guardian in all things, very observant, and quiet, listening to everything," said Lyle Novinski. "A courtesy indiscretion by a bus driver led to the driver's dismissal at the end of the tour; when a bus driver broke the courtesy rules, not only was he dismissed, but the further use of that bus company was discontinued. A jewelry salesman in Olympia who likewise had broken the courtesy bounds was convinced to come to Athens later in the trip to apologize to the faculty."

The name *Stoppini* is integrally interwoven with the history and mythology of the Rome Program. Novinski recalls the story of the chance meeting that led to Stoppini's involvement: The Notre Dame Generalate House was no longer going to be available as a student residence, and a new location needed to be found. Some representative of the Rome Program — perhaps Dominican Father Thomas Cain, an early director, or maybe Jim Scully, an early assistant — was in line at the Vatican Bank to conduct some transaction or other, and so was Stoppini.

Stoppini and the Rome Program representative began a conversation as they waited in line, and this housing problem came up.

"I might be able to help," said Stoppini. He was an agent for another large, rentable facility, the International Center owned by the Scalabrini Brothers. "Thus began a solution, and we found an amiable problem solver, Signore Stoppini," said Novinski.

"So it was just a case of being in the right place at the right time?" we asked Novinski, over coffee in his North Texas kitchen so many years later and miles away. "Oh, no," said Novinski. "I think it was divine intervention."

## Patron Saint

Stoppini had grown up in Assisi, where his family owned a hotel run by his grandmother. The family had long experience with tourism and connections throughout Europe. Stoppini was sent to Paris during World War II to learn to speak French and the French way of doing things; at the end of the war, Stoppini, who also spoke English, became a translator for a British commander in Assisi.

By the time he became involved with UD's Rome Program in the 1970s, he was a full-fledged travel agent — but he was much more than that. Assistant to the President, Dean of Students and Professor of German James Fougerousse, BA '67, referred to him as "the patron saint of the Rome Program." According to Lyle Novinski, he was "the angel of our existence."

"There are many stories of Frank's assistance, helping to procure everything from medical services for our injuries to legal assistance for students," said Novinski. "Frequently Frank accompanied us on the Greek trip, assuring by his gentle and smiling presence that all would be well with whatever situation occurred."

One such situation transpired in Olympia one morning, when Novinski realized that some-

thing was amiss with the Greek permissions, or "Sacred Papers" as they were called, with which the group traveled: The second page of the list of students on the trip was missing. Under Greek law, a professor who traveled with students currently enrolled in an institution of higher education was allowed to lecture anywhere. The first museum visited on the itinerary would then issue a second paper permitting the group free passage to all the sites and museums of Greece. These papers were in order, except for the incomplete list of students, which wouldn't do. So Novinski and Stoppini backtracked to the Olympia Museum to rectify the problem.

"During our explanation, the director reached around to a bookshelf and withdrew a thick three-ring binder, and moved through the pages until he found our current trip. He noticed that, yes, while we had furnished the names of all of our students and faculty, the museum had neglected to attach the second page," recounted Novinski. "After many apologies, the director amended our permission to the complete list ... I was impressed that this one binder contained the names of all of our students who had enjoyed the Greek trip; all were on file from the beginning of this arrangement with the Greek museums, provided thanks to Signore Stoppini's efforts on our behalf."

Meanwhile, while Novinski had been making small talk with the museum director, Stoppini had slipped a plastic bag containing a carton of American cigarettes under a newspaper on the director's desk. "Frank usually traveled with some aiding instrument on all visits of this kind," explained Novinski.

When Stoppini didn't have connections, he knew how to make them. Once, while in Greece to secure the "Sacred Papers" for the Rome Program students' travel there, he was told that the law under which the students had previously been able to freely travel and visit sites with their professors was no longer applicable due to a new government. "This is finished. No more," the bureaucrat told him.

# An Angel & a Prince

Frank Stoppini and the Rome Program

Written in collaboration  
with Lyle and Sybil  
Novinski

*Assistant to the President, Dean of Students and Professor of German James Fougousse referred to him as “the patron saint of the Rome Program.”*

Stoppini managed to slip into the upper levels of the building. He found a large room filled with workers at desks, immersed in all the various tasks of bureaucracy. In the far corner, behind a glass wall, a man was engaged in a very animated telephone conversation.

“I think I will talk to this man; he appears to be the important one,” said Stoppini to himself.

He crossed the room, entered the office and sat down to wait while the man finished talking. After hanging up, the man turned to Stoppini and asked, “My friend, what is your purpose?”

Stoppini began a quiet conversation pertaining to the general warming-up by an applicant for a favor; they talked about family, and Stoppini learned of the bureaucrat’s mother, who was an avid bird watcher.

“From his satchel, Frank produced a book on American birds, which he presented to the Man,” recalled Novinski. “When the large question was unfolded, the Man made a phone call, following which Frank was sent back down to the entrance to the same desk that had first denied the documents.”

As Stoppini later shared with Novinski at a sidewalk cafe in Delphi, “It took me 20 minutes to crack this new government.”

The Novinskis recalled going to dinner one evening in Rome at a high-end restaurant and waiting for a good table; when their table was ready, they were led past a movie star still waiting for hers. Such was Stoppini’s influence.

“We would stay in upscale places we couldn’t possibly afford, because Frank was doing something for them, like getting them a certificate of occupancy,” said Lyle Novinski. “Several times I found my plane ticket upgraded at Frank’s courtesy. When I did my summer art trips with students, I would send Frank a list of the places where I wanted to go; he would write back with a list of the places where I *should* go.”

“UD’s programs often benefited from both Stoppinis’ great knowledge of the inexhaustible nature of Italy,” said Sybil Novinski.







Molly Reynolds with her two children, an integral part of Celestial life.

## Celestial Beerworks

**The Owners:** **Molly (Rawicki) Reynolds**, BA '13, started Celestial with her husband, **Matt**. She is the art and marketing director; he is the main brewer.

**In a Nutshell:** According to their website, "At Celestial Beerworks, we believe that beer should be consumed in its freshest state. Our core lineup will focus on hop-forward, approachable, complex brews. ... We think that visiting a taproom should be an experience. This experience will combine our three favorite things: art, science, and delicious, fresh beer."

**Start Sipping:** Celestial is located at 2530 Butler Street in Dallas' Medical District. Discover more at [celestialbeerworks.com](http://celestialbeerworks.com).

## Finding Theo

**The Author:** On Sept. 17, 2013, **Timothy Krause**, MBA '94, and his wife, **Jorja**, were savoring a normal evening at home when a phone call shattered their peace: In Colorado, their son, **Theo**, had experienced a horrific mountain biking accident that had broken his neck and injured his spinal cord. They were told he would probably never walk again.

**In a Nutshell:** "*Finding Theo* restores faith in the goodness of people and something bigger than all of us," says WarnerMedia CEO **John Stankey**. As the book's description elucidates, "*Finding Theo* is a father's raw account of his son's courageous battle for life. It is also a deeper story of discovery about the people whose lives became interwoven with Theo's: the son of an Iranian immigrant who found him beside the trail, medical professionals ... and the cast of friends who guarded his soul."

**Start Reading:** *Finding Theo* is available from local bookstores in Dallas and Colorado as well as on Amazon.com, barnesandnoble.com and other sites, starting at \$14.99; links to all purchase options can be found at [timothykrausebooks.com/buy-the-book](http://timothykrausebooks.com/buy-the-book).



L to R: Dale Solze (husband to Mae), Mae Krause Solze, Theo Krause, Jorja Krause, Tim Krause.



## People and Places of the Roman Past

**The Editor:** Dean, Director and Vice President of the Rome Program and Professor of Classics **Peter Hatlie**, Ph.D., has compiled chapters written largely by current and former UD faculty.

**In a Nutshell:** *People and Places of the Roman Past: The Educated Traveller's Guide* is part tourist guide, part scholarly article, part encyclopedia. Written for travelers in search of information and inspiration as they tour Rome's streets, museums, churches and monuments, it offers an informative, insightful look at the human and cultural history of one of the world's great cities.

**Start Reading:** Available on Amazon.com for \$113.52 in hardcover.





## TEAM BUILDER

### Alumna Finds Passion in Human Resources

**Mariana Zayas**, BA '12, began her UD journey as a psychology major, but realized during her Rome semester that there might be other paths for her besides graduate school, which had been her original plan.

"I knew I wanted to help people, but not in what capacity," she said. "I didn't know what that looked like."

Then, guided by **Erin Freeman**, Ph.D., BA '02 MA '03, who taught in UD's Psychology Department at the time, Zayas discovered industrial/organizational psychology and first stumbled upon her purpose.

"I/O psychology, with Dr. Freeman, brought together everything I love to do," said Zayas.

She then switched to a business major with psychology and Spanish concentrations. She now works in the HR field as the culture and engagement senior analyst at Toyota, and has truly found her passion.

"I want to help people in their daily lives and help them be the best in their jobs, and HR is where I can do that. My passion is helping people come to work every day," she said. "And that's what I get to do. I love my job; it's the best!"

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**1** "If you want to be a great, awesome human being, the formation you get at UD is crucial: It's personal, it's spiritual, it's everything," said Zayas.

**2** In her role at Toyota, Zayas works with team leaders, helping to enhance teams' engagement; often this means changing or reinforcing the behaviors of the leaders themselves.

## TEAM PLAYER

### FROM THE NFL TO TEAM FACILITIES

As both a student and a member of UD's Facilities Department, **Brandon Cox**, MBA '18, was immediately drawn to the close-knit community and sense of teamwork at UD. Working with the Facilities Department wasn't Cox's first team experience. Towering at 6 feet, 7 inches, Cox excelled on the football field at the University of Louisiana; he was placed on the Lombardi Watch List for the nation's best lineman, and, after college, he spent a summer playing with the Chicago Bears in the NFL.



On the field, Cox played guard and tackle on the offensive line — a job whose main function is to protect the team's quarterback (think *The Blind Side*). Playing on the offensive line requires a tremendous amount of teamwork and dependability — skills toward which Cox has always gravitated.



In true team fashion, Cox indicates that his favorite projects include tasks where the crew draws upon the skills of everyone in the group. "One of the reasons why I like this job so much is because it's a team. Everything I've ever done has been as a team," said Cox. "You can compare the roles we have here with roles on the football field. On the football field, the quarterback, offensive lineman and running back all have different jobs. Whether it's throwing the ball, blocking or running the ball, it all comes together for one goal, and our team's goal is to beautify the campus."



## Class Notes

### 1970s

**Chris Bright**, BA '77 and former trustee, of Bright Realty, was named to D Magazine's Dallas 500.

**Don Carlson**, BA '78 MA '86 PhD '91, published a volume of poetry titled *Testimony: A Poetic Retelling of the Gospel According to John*, available in both paperback and Kindle versions on Amazon.com. Don teaches English at Trinity Valley School in Fort Worth.

**Mackubin Thomas Owens**, MA '79 PhD '82, is a senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute (FPRI) in Philadelphia and editor of *Orbis*, FPRI's quarterly journal. He recently retired after 29 years as professor of national security affairs at the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

### 1980s

**Thomas Garr**, MBA '81, was presented with the 2018 Kennesaw State University (KSU) Foundation Outstanding Part-Time Teaching Award for Coles College of Business. He serves as faculty adviser to the KSU Student Managed Investment Fund.

**Jeffrey Vaughn**, MA '81 MFA '83, had an exhibition at the George Billis Gallery in New York City in April and May. In over 30 years as a landscape artist, Jeffrey has exhibited throughout the U.S.; his work is displayed at the U.S. Department of State, Anheuser-Busch Inc., the Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, and Kentucky Public Radio, among other places.

**Jack Zanini**, BA '83, and his son **Tobias Zanini**, BA '19, acted in the bizarre short *A Scratch for Every Itch*, which had its world premiere at the Golden State Film Festival in March. It can next be seen at the Freethought International Film Festival in Pittsburgh in September. Learn more at [mgproductions.biz/scratch-every-itch](https://mgproductions.biz/scratch-every-itch).

**Larry Golen**, MBA '85, is vice president of channel development at Packard.

**Elizabeth King**, MBA '85, is chief revenue officer at Quantum Corp.

**Raul Calvoz**, who attended UD in 1988-89, has written a thriller titled *Eye for Eye* (Talion Publishing) under the pen name **J.K. Franko**. It is available in paperback, Kindle and audiobook versions on Amazon.com.

### SERVANT LEADERSHIP

## Alumnus Honored for Outreach

**Ervin Ashford Jr.**, MBA '00, was recently honored in the 2019 Class of Influential Leaders by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) for his inspiring work serving the community as a model for the next generation of business leaders. Since graduating from UD in 2000, Ashford has built his career at Comerica Bank on a foundation of service to his community. He currently serves in the role of senior vice president of external affairs and national director of financial education at Comerica Bank. In January, Ashford also was inducted into the Satish and Yasmin Gupta Hall of Fame for his extraordinary achievements.

"The University of Dallas is where I learned collaboration and teamwork," said Ashford in his Hall of Fame acceptance speech. He firmly believes in the power of education and stated that his various degrees and fellowships taught him "to provide the best possible

customer service in the markets that Comerica serves, not because of regulations, but because all Americans are in the business of helping people be successful."

Ashford has helped thousands of individuals in Texas become financially literate and more fiscally responsible. Through his work at Comerica Bank, with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Dallas, and with numerous other area foundations, Ashford has been a role model for Dallas-area children growing up in disenfranchised communities. With the belief that "with knowledge comes power," Ashford continuously uses business as a vehicle for change in the community.

**"There are no superheroes in the hood," said Ashford, born in New York City 300 feet from a homeless shelter, now living 300 feet from a golf course. He credits his escape from the projects to intelligence, courage and others' generosity.**

### GRILL MASTER

For over a year, UD players and fans have enjoyed the barbecue grilling of baseball dad **Mike Boylson**, P '16 '19. As both a parent and a former baseball player, Boylson understands the importance of feeding the fans and players during doubleheaders, and he plans on continuing to man the grill at the baseball field for seasons to come.





## BODY BUILDER

Despite philosophical complexities, **Monica Ashour**, MTS '95 MH '04, has read **St. John Paul II's** *Theology of the Body* 14 times, and her life's work is explaining it to others, from toddlers on up. Her latest project is a series of books, *The Body Matters*, for kindergartners through eighth-graders. Read more at [udallas.edu/the-body-matters](http://udallas.edu/the-body-matters).



## PATH TO JOY

### Applying Lessons Learned from Autistic Sons

Former Affiliate Assistant Professor of Spanish **Nicole (Hammerschmidt) Lasswell**, BA '03, and her husband, **Martin**, have two sons, **Will** and **Stevie**, both of whom have autism. For World Autism Awareness Day, the family was interviewed on Telemundo; because the boys are thriving, it seemed particularly important to the Lasswells to share their story and their hope with others.

Lasswell, in fact, is writing a book, in addition to setting up a private practice to help others using the techniques she's learned. "My book is about helping other parents of children on the spectrum parent their children joyfully," said Lasswell. "The theme of the book is that by letting my children become my teachers, I was humbled enough to find within me those things that needed forgiveness and healing."

At UD, her students came to her for assistance with Spanish, but almost always their anxieties went much deeper than their Spanish homework; as they sat with her in her Zen-like office, she taught them how to get at the root of what was bothering them. Once that root was identified, it could be addressed. "We come from unity," said Lasswell. "We came here, to Earth, to experience separation, and to learn to welcome life in all of its feelings and emotions." Read more at [udallas.edu/path-to-joy](http://udallas.edu/path-to-joy).

"I am honored to be here and share whatever knowledge I have to help others, as a mother and intuitive guide," said Lasswell. "The ultimate theme of my approach is to help others by guiding them to help themselves."

## 1990s

**Andy Baker**, Ph.D., BA '92, became superintendent of Kilgore ISD in January.

**Glenn Backus**, MBA '94, president of Third Party Administrator Alternative Service Concepts, presented at the risk management and insurance event RIMS 2019 Annual Conference & Exhibition in April.

**Jon Bird**, BA '99, is director of U.S. regional and international marketing at American Airlines.

## 2000s

**Sean Gaffney**, BA '00, is executive vice president and chief legal officer at Addus HomeCare.

**Dwija (Ciesiak)** and **Tomas Borobia**, BA '01, welcomed their eighth baby, **Peter Joseph**, in February.

DaVerse Lounge, co-facilitated by **Will Richey**, BA '01, held its 14th annual show in February, including its first-ever gallery show. Will and his wife, **Delilah (Whisenhunt)**, BA '00, welcomed their fourth baby, **Solina Teresa**, in May.

**Michael Vendsel**, MA '02, discussed **Mary Shelley's** *Frankenstein*, illustrating philosophical trends in the novel, at the Tarrant County College (TCC) Southeast Campus in April. Michael has taught philosophy and religion at TCC since fall 2014.

**Nick Heyne**, M.D., BA '03, received his third board certification for psychiatry in January. He and his wife, **Emily (Cook)**, MA '07 PhD '12, welcomed their third baby, **John Henry**, in February.

**Larry Mitnaul**, M.D., BA '03, launched a website, [larrymitnaul.com](http://larrymitnaul.com), "dedicated to helping children and families find anchors of resilience." Larry is board certified in psychiatry and child and adolescent psychiatry. He and his wife, **Katie (Case)**, BA '03, have five children.

**Lucia (Arbery) Simek**, BA '03, curates the series "The Salon," a monthly artistic forum that features local artists at The Adolphus in Dallas.

**Jennifer Chandler**, MBA '04, is Dallas market president of Bank of America.

**Curt Hellen**, MBA '04, is president of Stava Building.

**Jason M. Baxter**, BA '05, is the academic dean at Wyoming



## LIMINAL MOMENTS

# Watching the Gospel Expand

Dan Luby Reflects on Teaching and Retirement

**A**ffiliate Assistant Professor of Theology **Daniel J. Luby, S.T.L., S.T.D.**, is retiring after 39 years of teaching at UD. While Luby is unsure how he will spend his retirement, he plans to teach part time and is leading a Western Theological Tradition class in Rome this summer.

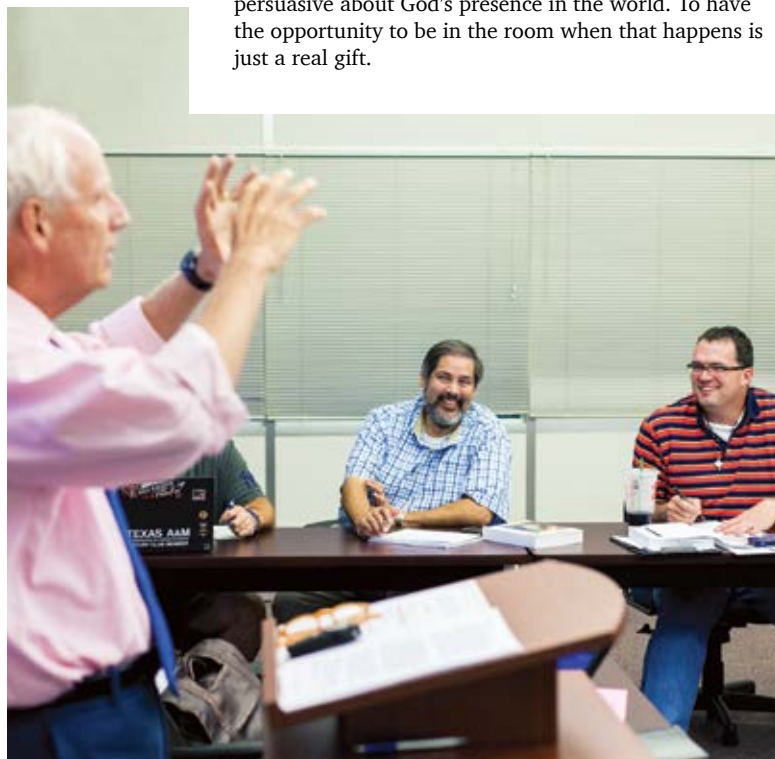
“My initial hope is to start with very intentional and deliberate listening to my life and heart and the people closest to me to hear how God might be guiding me. I have no doubt that such guidance is forthcoming,” he said. “This is a liminal moment for me, and as someone who talks endlessly in my teaching about the importance and fruitfulness of such moments, I want to be sure I approach it as the grace-filled opportunity it is. I don’t want to preempt God’s quiet whisperings by jumping into a new all-consuming commitment until I have sat with some silence and prayer.”

In October 2016, after 36 years of dedicated instruction and service, Luby reflected on how education has changed in his time at UD — and how education in ministry thrives with these changes.

What has kept drawing you in during your impressive teaching career?

**DL:** The thing I find most compelling about this work is the opportunity to be able to listen to stories of people’s faith that are so concrete and real and so evidential, so persuasive about God’s presence in the world. To have the opportunity to be in the room when that happens is just a real gift.

While excited to retire, Luby will miss his daily interactions “with a dazzling cast of fascinating, bright, big-hearted characters and ... their ever-illuminating stories.”



What are your hopes for when a student finishes one of your courses or programs?

**DL:** In general, my hope would be that students would leave more convinced of God’s love and mercy and presence than they were when they came in, and that that conviction would bear fruit in doing the Gospel, whether that be in some kind of professional capacity in ministry or just as a rank-and-file member of the church. Those are the things that I would really hope for: that their faith would be enriched, and that almost by definition, if their faith is authentically enriched, it’s going to bear fruit in service.

What makes the Neuhoﬀ School of Ministry so dynamic?

**DL:** The community of the school includes this three-pronged orientation of service with academic education, continuing education and the ministry conference, working closely with the local church. Those things rub off on and enrich each other. All of us are consultants to one another about various things, and we utilize people’s expertise from one area to another. Collaboration is a really important value for the church and for our ministry.

In the recent note Luby sent to his UD family and others regarding his retirement, he wrote, “I leave with a deep sense of gratitude for friends and colleagues who have enriched my life in a thousand directions. In the classroom; passing in the hall; at meetings large and small, formal and pop-up; sipping wine and dining on UD’s apparently infinite store of cheese and crackers, I have been challenged and affirmed, illuminated and educated. Most of all, I have been graced to enter into the sacred space of sharing stories with fellow pilgrims in search of our Heart’s Desire, the recognition of which is its own blessed reward.”



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## Spring at UD

This spring was a season of camaraderie. From Groundhog and the Distinguished Alumni Awards to lectures across colleges, we gathered to celebrate the unparalleled spirit of UD.

**1** - Trustee **Laura Felis Quinn**, BS '86 MBA '18, accepts her award during the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner on May 4; Quinn was honored alongside **Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers**, MTS '00, **Judy Kelly**, BA '63, and **John Parker**, BA '83 MBA '89.

**2** - Students **Muhammad Vsama Arif**, BS '19, and **Clare Kuzma**, BA '19, work the 19th annual

Galecke Open at the Las Colinas Country Club on April 15; the four-man scramble helped raise over \$120,000 for the Cor Fund.

**3** - Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Printmaking **Juergen Strunk**, MA '72, was honored for his contributions to printmaking in North Texas; his solo exhibition "juergen strunk prints: no secrets" was displayed in the

Beatrice M. Haggerty Gallery for the Texchange annual conference in March.

**4** - **Sara Werth**, BA '99, is all smiles at the Groundhog Founders' Dinner, catered by Lamberti's Ristorante and Wine Bar, which kicked off the Party in the Park on Feb. 2.

**5** - **Roslyn Dawson Thompson**, CEO of Texas Women's Foundation, discussed "Building a Firm Foundation" at the March 28 Leaders & Legends event.

**6** - This spring's Women in Business lunchtime panel featured **Mary Emma Karam**, **Jennifer Proctor**, BA '87, **Abby Knowles** and **Kathy Muldoon** considering "Work-Life Integration: Living Both Halves of Our Lives" with

moderator Associate Professor of Management **Rosemary Maella-ro**, Ph.D., on April 3.

**7** - UD alumnus, UD Trustee and President of Southwest Airlines **Tom Nealon**, MBA '87, speaks about balancing technology with the human element at the Leaders & Legends event in January.

**8** - Golfers shoot perfectly aimed air cannons during the Galecke Open; this year's tournament winners were **Tom Flaherty**, **Nick Flaherty**, **Michael Callahan**, BA '20, and **Kyle Callahan**, BA '10.

**9** - Interim President **John Plotts**, Ed.D., and incoming President **Thomas S. Hibbs**, Ph.D., share a laugh at the Distinguished Alumni Awards Dinner.





## MYTH BUSTER

“My hope is to break the myth of the bad child/student, for there is no such thing,” said **M  roudjie Denis**, Ph.D., BA '03, of the TEDx talk she gave in March, available to watch on YouTube. “There are children who have been hurt and, through their behavior, desperately seek to communicate to us what they need.”

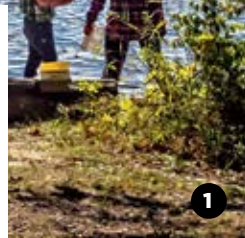


## BOYS' LIFE

### Alumni Reimagine Education for Boys

**Peter Searby**, BA '01, feels that modern schools — with a scarcity of opportunities for children to work with their hands and use their imaginations to explore their worlds — are doing boys in particular a disservice. Boys are so often pegged as having differences or disorders, as needing medications, when in fact many of their problems might simply stem from being in environments that are, one might say, biologically disrespectful. From this recognized deficiency, Searby conceived the idea for Riverside Center for Imaginative Learning, of which he is both founder and creative director. Riverside is not a full-time school but rather a supplemental educational center that offers “a landscape of adventure crafted specially for boys, but also providing co-ed programs, and cultural events for the whole family.”

Also finding the education of boys a primary concern, **Daniel Kerr**, BA '03, opened St. Martin's Academy, a Catholic boys' boarding high school in Fort Scott, Kansas, in 2018. St. Martin's aims to nurture authentic masculinity, heal the imagination, awaken wonder and develop attentiveness; according to the school's vision, “the fulfillment of our personalities can only occur through an ever-deepening relationship with **Jesus Christ**. And that relationship demands engagement from the whole person: body, mind and soul. In all that we do at St. Martin's — farm-work, study and prayer — we seek to create a rich and fertile soil for God to do His work in cultivating Saints.”



**1** At Riverside, “Tutorials” consist of the expression of story through various creative media, combined with naturalist education and outdoor adventure. Discover more about these schools at [udallas.edu/imaginative-learning](http://udallas.edu/imaginative-learning).

**2** Soldier, monk, bishop, mystic and saint, Martin is known by this image of the mounted soldier giving his cloak to a freezing beggar.

Catholic College, where he has taught humanities and art history since 2010. Jason recently published two books, *A Beginner's Guide to Dante's Divine Comedy* (Baker Academic, 2018) and *Falling Inward: Humanities in the Age of Technology* (Cluny Media, 2018). In October, Jason was the featured guest on EWTN Live with **Father Mitch Pacwa**.

**Brandon Edmunds**, MBA '05, is the lower Midwest territory manager for Ziwi, a global leader in air-dried pet nutrition.

**Justin Lemieux**, BA '05, performed **W.H. Auden's** “For the Time Being,” adapted for the stage by Justin and his wife, Dallas-based theater writer **Katy Lemieux**, BA '05, at the Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture in December. (See the D Magazine article by **Peter Simek**, BA '02, for more about the vision behind this performance.) Justin will perform a new play, *Girl Dad*, “a heartwarming exploration of one man's understanding of masculinity,” at the 2019 Dallas Solo Fest in June.

**Jason Saucedo**, BA '05, is a junior partner at Hewitt & Habgood Realty.

**Hanh Ho**, MBA '06, became the curator of contemporary art at the Scottsdale Museum of Contemporary Art in January, moving to Scottsdale from Dallas, where she successfully ran her own international contemporary art gallery, CYDONIA, for six years.

**Elizabeth (Pollard) Kaminski**, BA '09, is planning manager at Beauty Bioscience.

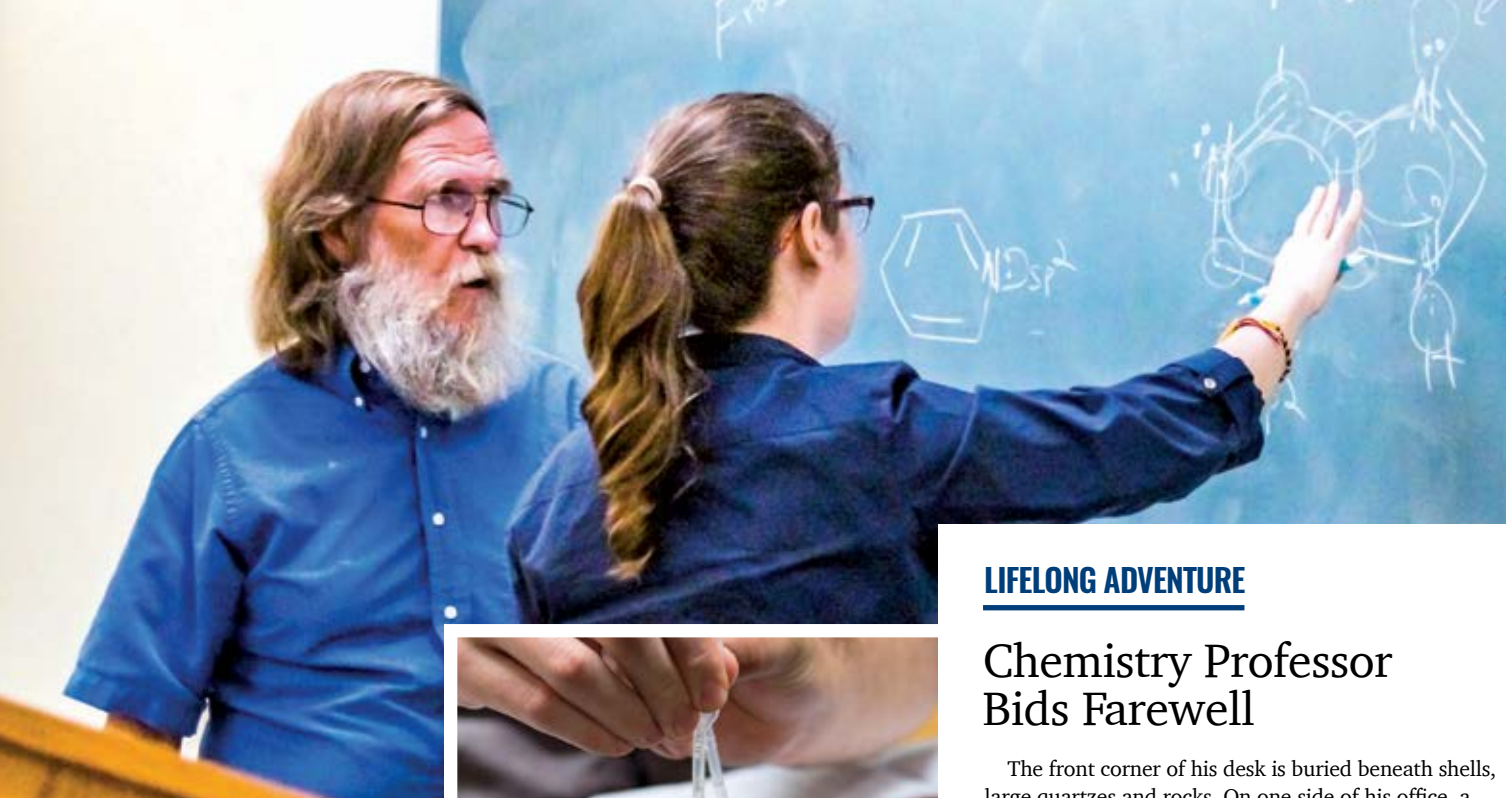
## 2010s

**Rafael Rene Barrientos-Martinez**, BA '11, former conservation assistant at Fort Worth's Kimbell Art Museum, gave a lecture there in January titled “Portrait of Jacob Obrecht: A New Attribution to Quinten Metsys.” Rafael is a doctoral student in art history at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a recipient of the Eugene V. Cota-Robles Fellowship. He is also a research fellow for the curatorial department of Latin American art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.

**Elijah Salazar**, BA '12, opened Peaberry Coffee, a “neighborhood to-go coffee shop partnering to serve gluten-free pastries, chocolate and more,” in Oak Cliff in January.

**Danny Fitzpatrick**, BA '13, has written a novel, *Only the Lover Sings*,





## LIFELONG ADVENTURE

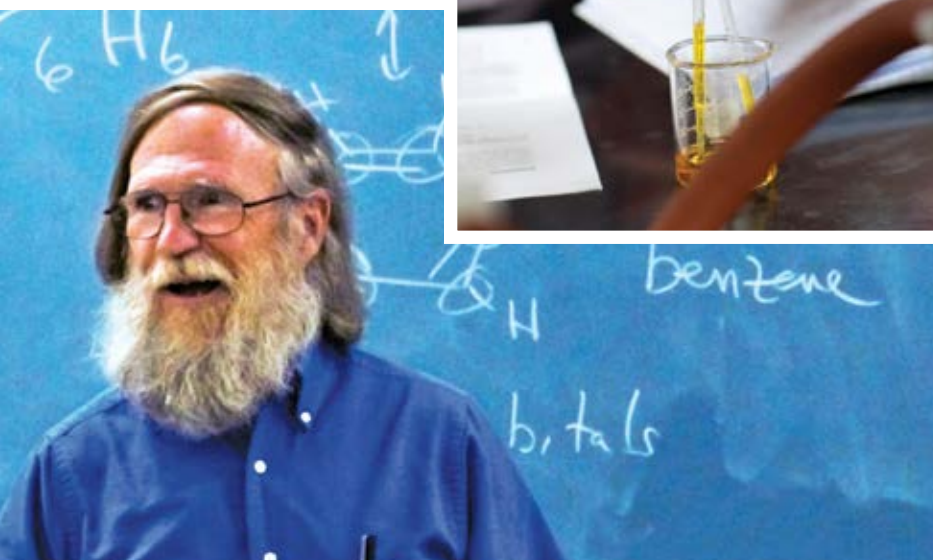
### Chemistry Professor Bids Farewell

The front corner of his desk is buried beneath shells, large quartzes and rocks. On one side of his office, a Nerf gun rests below a shelf of notebooks. And behind his desk, picturesque mountain landscapes of the many parks he's visited over the decades decorate his metal filing cabinet. "Some of these books I've had since I was an undergraduate," said longtime Professor of Chemistry **William "Bill" Hendrickson**, Ph.D. "I'm gradually getting everything cleared out."

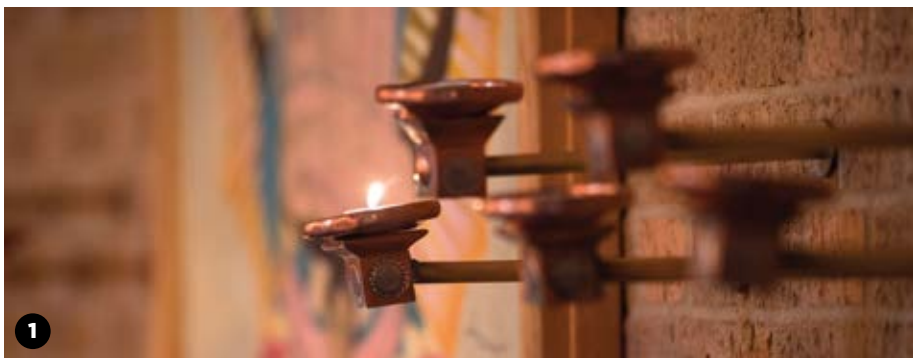
Hendrickson accepted an invitation to teach at UD in 1979. A former chair of UD's Chemistry Department, Hendrickson helped procure more than \$1 million in funding through research grants awarded to UD from the Welch Foundation and the American Chemical Society.

"When I first got to UD, there really wasn't much. ... the administration was very small," said Hendrickson, who hails from the college town of Ruston, Louisiana. "I grew up on a dead-end street, and most of our neighbors were professors," he added. "I would see these guys come home early in the afternoon and thought, hey, that looks like an easy gig. Boy, was I wrong."

The now retired UD chemistry professor already has his next adventure planned: Yellowstone. Read more about Hendrickson at [udallas.edu/lifelong-adventure](http://udallas.edu/lifelong-adventure).







## In Her Memory

**Mike** and **Peggy Kiegerl**'s youngest daughter, **Christine**, would have graduated from UD in the Class of 1994, but just before her graduation, she was struck and killed by an impaired driver. The Kiegerls established the Christine S. Kiegerl Memorial Scholarship, awarded annually to a rising senior English major, in their girl's memory in 1997.

A business owner, an adjunct professor of economics for 24 years and a former Kansas state representative, Mike Kiegerl accumulated a substantial personal library of 1,000 books that he recently donated to UD. The Kiegerls' admiration for UD began when Christine first came here and has persisted; they have also included UD in their will.

"We found UD, we like UD, and we want to support it as much as we can," said Kiegerl. Read more about Christine's legacy at [udallas.edu/in-her-memory](http://udallas.edu/in-her-memory).

**1** Christine loved music and was part of the Collegium Cantorum.

**2** The Kiegerls' business helped people who were out of work due to injuries.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Events are subject to change. Stay up to date on UD's alumni social media channels.



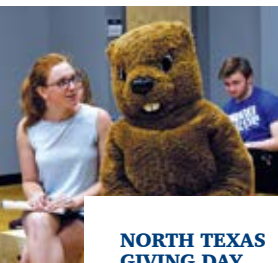
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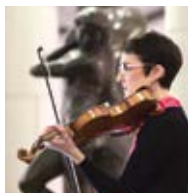
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### NORTH TEXAS GIVING DAY

Show North Texas how generous Ground-hogs can be, on the largest giving day in the nation.

SEPT. 19



### CROWLEY CHAMBER TRIO

Join the trio for an intimate classical music experience at the Museum of Biblical Art.

SEPT. 23-24



### ALUMNI & FAMILY WEEKEND

Return to your beloved alma mater to make new memories with old friends.

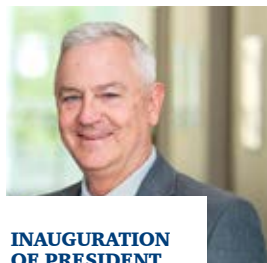
OCT. 3-6



### UD MINISTRY CONFERENCE

Renew your spirit with three days of fellowship, inspiration and faith-filled formation.

OCT. 10-12



### INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT HIBBS

Join us to officially install Thomas Hibbs, Ph.D., as our first alumnus president.

NOV. 1

under consideration for publication by En Route Books and Media in St. Louis.

**Lucas Preble**, BA '13 MS '17, is assistant principal of student life at Saint John Paul II Academy.

## In Memoriam

**Kristin (Popik) Burns**, Ph.D., BA '71, a founding faculty member of Christendom College and former dean of the college's graduate school, passed away peacefully at her home on April 1, surrounded by her family, of cancer at age 69. Wife, mother, educator and dedicated follower of Christ, Kristin is survived by three children and five grandchildren, along with her loving husband of nearly 40 years, **Michael**.

**Father Gregory Hart**, BA '80, passed away on Nov. 14, of amyloidosis at age 59. He earned his licentiate in sacred theology in 1985 at the North American College in Rome, a year after being ordained to the priesthood in the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Little Rock on June 30, 1984. "He marveled at how God was using his illness to draw his family closer together and closer to the Lord," said Bishop of the Diocese of Little Rock **Anthony B. Taylor** during Father Greg's Mass of Christian Burial.

**Grace (Starry) West**, Ph.D., UD professor of classics from 1974 until 2011, passed away at her home in Hillsdale, Michigan, on May 19, of lung cancer at age 72. Said Professor Emerita of Spanish and History **Alexandra Wilhelmsen**, "Grace was one of the brightest professors at UD, with a razor-sharp mind; she managed to teach, run the Classics Department, make a name for herself in classics scholarship, be active in her church — while raising four children." Grace is survived by her husband, **Tom**, daughter, **Susannah**, BA '00 MBA '12, sons **David**, BA '04 MH '11, **Michael**, BA '06, and **James**, BA '10, four children-in-law, and seven grandchildren.

**Dan Westerman**, BA '70, passed away on Nov. 30, of natural causes at age 70. He was a photographer and a part-time adjunct instructor at Houston Community College. According to his obituary, "He was a great teacher largely because he was a perpetual student; he loved logic, cooking, cards, jazz, travel, Bach, shooting pool, flying airplanes, playing piano, photography, and anything worth learning about. Dan was a beloved son, an influential teacher, and a fierce friend."

# Q: How does UD's seal represent your experience at the university, and how might that experience be unique to UD?



**John Plotts**, Ed.D., served as UD's interim president from May 2018 through June 2019; he has now resumed his role as executive vice president, which he first held in 2011. He arrived at UD in 2008.

When I think of the UD seal, the word that catches my attention is *veritatem*. Years ago my philosophy of higher education was formed by reading **Cardinal Newman's** book *The Idea of a University*. In his fifth discourse, Newman extolls the "value of every truth which is anywhere to be found." This confident pursuit of truth liberated my imagination and promoted a seemingly endless well of inquiry in my soul. In my early life, pursuit of truth was largely focused on truth as found in special revelation — the Bible. While theology is central to Newman's idea of a liberal education and impacts all branches of knowledge, it is only one branch of knowledge. Exploration of the natural world opens a vast ocean of knowledge that affords infinite opportunities for discovering truth. For me, the pursuit of truth is a pursuit of God; consequently, when I see loving truth on our seal, it reminds me that a UD education is the pursuit of knowing God.



Trustee **Megan Smith**, D.O., BA '02 MBA '18, specializes in internal medicine at Colleyville Family Medicine.

The University of Dallas' seal is emblematic of the undergraduate education I received, and it holds a special place within my heart.

*Veritatem, justitiam diligite*, our motto present within the seal, "Love ye truth and justice," has always represented the very best of what the university offers to its students. In our culture, which increasingly embraces the ideology of relativism, we, at the University of Dallas, teach and believe that truth and wisdom exist. Even more importantly, we teach that they can be known and lived out in a meaningful and relevant way. The motto serves as a reminder of the wisdom and truth I gained through the study of the Core curriculum, as well as of the need for the continued pursuit of these ideals.



**Elizabeth (Malone) Bloch**, Ph.D., BA '08, a former English and classical philology major, now teaches Lit Trad as an adjunct. She and **John Bloch**, BA '08, have three children.

UD's seal first challenged me from above the Rome campus amphitheater the summer before my freshman year, during "Latin in Rome" discussing two possible translations for the motto: "Love ye truth and justice" and "Love ye truth as justice." Over the next four years, *veritatem, justitiam diligite* held up the idea of a UD education as a labor of love. Although the words resonated with me first, the experience of living among Irving's oak trees and Due Santi's olive trees, both figured on the seal, rooted this universal pursuit of truth-as-justice in particular places. The nods to UD's local character in the star and in the three wavy lines of the Trinity River beneath the Trinitarian center symbolize the unique endeavor we've participated in: studying the Core by the light of faith on a hill in Texas.



**Maria Rossini**, BA '20, an English major with a concentration in Latin, will study politics this summer as a fellow with the American Enterprise Institute and the Hertog Foundation.

In the UD seal's center in a circle of red are a golden triangle and triquetra interwoven. This lovely, strange symbol immediately reveals my school as Catholic, focused on the Trinity in its beauty and logic. In the triangle's strong line, I see analysis and reason, and in the curved triquetra, grace and refinement. The same blue behind the letters lies at the bottom of the seal as water, reminding me of the waters of baptism, Rome's Tiber River, and even what it's supposed to be, Dallas' Trinity River. The Latin encircling the seal reminds me of my classical and Catholic education here. In fact, it uses my favorite Latin verb, *diligite*, meaning to love but also to choose. The diction reminds me that love is a choice, and that virtue must be continually chosen to be lived.





## UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS

### Office of Advancement

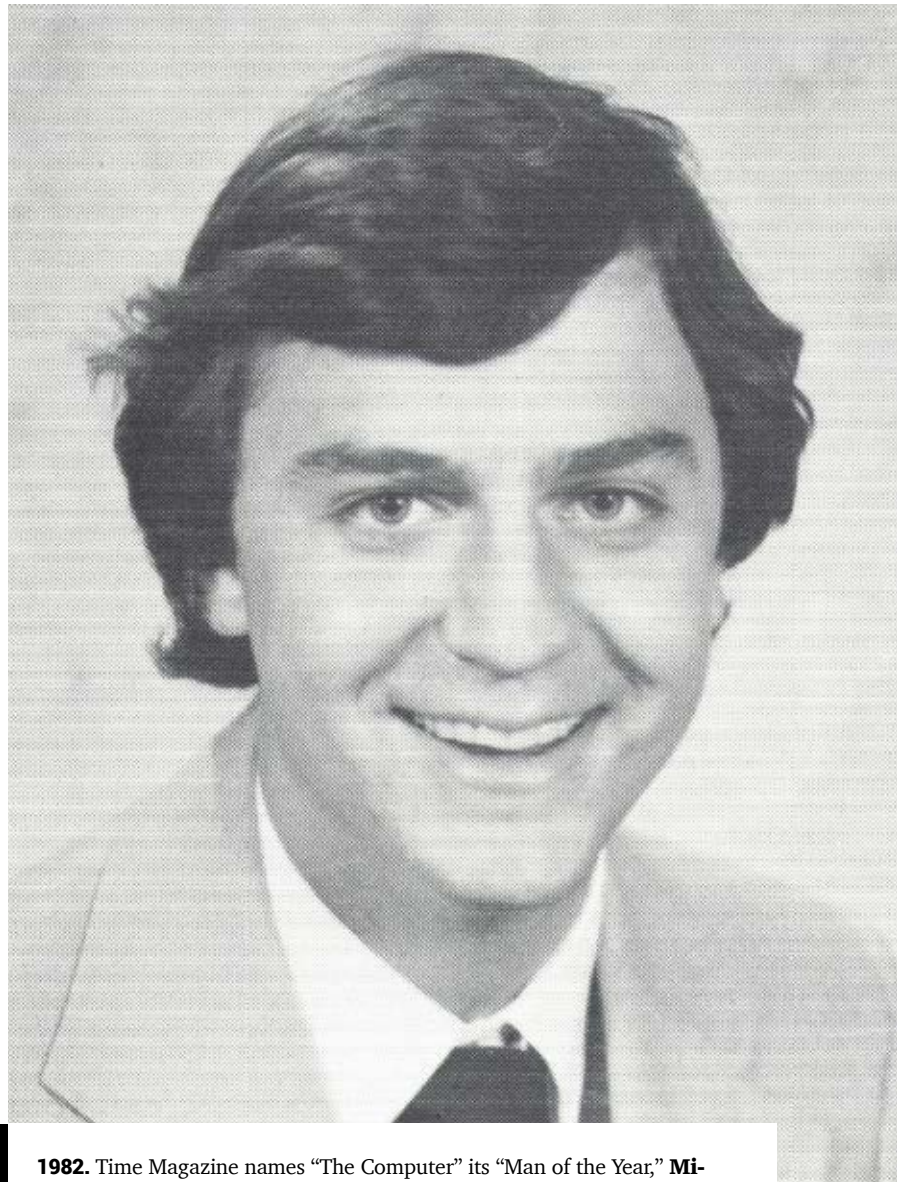
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### NOW & THEN



**2019.** The Board of Trustees selects **Thomas S. Hibbs** to be the ninth president of UD. The first alumnus to serve as president, Hibbs will be officially inaugurated on Nov. 1.



**1982.** Time Magazine names "The Computer" its "Man of the Year," **Michael Jackson** releases *Thriller*, and Disney's EPCOT Center opens. Locally, D Magazine highlights one of UD's founding families, the **Carpenters**, as one of "Dallas' First Families," and **Thomas S. Hibbs** graduates from UD with a B.A. in English, earning an M.A. in philosophy the following year.